

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 222
By Borchert

A RESOLUTION to honor the memory of Gary W. Powley of
Henry County, Tennessee.

WHEREAS, the members of this General Assembly were greatly saddened to learn of the passing of Mr. Gary W. Powley; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Powley was an exemplary public servant and consummate professional who worked assiduously to improve the quality of life for his fellow citizens in numerous capacities; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Gary W. Powley served with acumen and alacrity as a radio personality in a broadcasting career that spanned an impressive thirty years, in which position he earned the respect of his peers and superiors alike for the exemplary quality of his work; and

WHEREAS, a native of Carroll County, Mr. Powley graduated from Hollow Rock-Bruceton Central High School in 1966; during this time, he played baseball, football, and basketball and was a drummer in several local bands; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Gary W. Powley's career in radio began in 1968 at WENK-AM in Union City; and

WHEREAS, this remarkable man was drafted into the U.S. Army in 1969, Mr. Powley served with courage and integrity for fourteen months in Korea; and

WHEREAS, this dedicated professional then worked as an announcer and sportscaster at WTPR and WTPR-FM, now WAKQ-FM, in the early and mid-1970s, which set the ground work for him to take other jobs at radio stations in Tennessee, Kentucky, and Louisiana as an announcer, salesman, sportscaster, newsman, and programmer; and

WHEREAS, returning to Tennessee, Mr. Powley once again signed on the air at WTPR and WTPR-FM in 1991 as an announcer and salesman. Called by many, "The Voice of Henry County," in 1996 he was named General Manager of both stations; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Gary Powley, through interviews on his morning show on WTPR, helped to contribute to the success of such noteworthy programs as the American Cancer Society's Relay for Life, Helping Hand radio auction, and the Lifeline Bloodmobile; and

WHEREAS, as a direct result of this man's outstanding leadership skills, WTPR radio station received the Excalibur Award, the highest honor given by the American Cancer Society; and

WHEREAS, following news of his illness, a local fundraiser bore witness to his popularity. On this occasion, long lines of friends and supporters filed into the Henry County Fairgrounds, where a four-hour benefit raised money for Mr. Powley and his family to help with medical expenses; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Powley always found time in his busy schedule for family and lent his talents and energy as a coach for his son's community basketball team for two years; and

WHEREAS, Gary Powley enjoyed the loving companionship of his wife, Patty and was the proud parent of three grown children; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Gary W. Powley leaves behind an indelible legacy of integrity and probity in public life, compassion and loyalty in private life, and diligence and dedication in all his chosen endeavors; and

WHEREAS, it is fitting that this General Assembly should pause to remember the bountiful life of this exceptional public servant and human being; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED FOURTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that we honor the memory of Mr. Gary W. Powley, reflecting fondly upon his impeccable character and his stalwart commitment to living the examined life with courage and conviction.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that we express our sympathy and offer our condolences to the family of Gary Powley.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.